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January 8, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

Like many people in Texas, I am happy that a settlement agreement has been reached between the Department of Justice and Microsoft. The suit has taken a toll on the IT industry and on consumers of technology products.

The settlement agreement is fair to all the parties in the case and is the result of years of expensive litigation. Information sharing and non-retaliation agreements should be enough to satisfy even Microsoft's harshest critics. Unfortunately, opponents of Microsoft would like to see the lawsuit continue and even be reopened for further action. Three years of litigation have already disturbed the IT industry and the economy too much. Reopening the suit and continuing litigation will only serve to harm the IT industry and the economy.

Now is the time to end the suit and move on. Surely, the Department of Justice has more important issues to deal with and Microsoft needs to move on as well. I hope that the settlement is finalized as soon as possible.

Sincerely,


Suzanne Dodge